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USSR-POLAND: Criticism of Polish Party

Moscow's renewed attack against "revisionists" in the Polish Communist Party reflects its increased concern over the current local party elections and the selection of delegates to the Polish party congress scheduled for mid-July.

TASS, reviving a charge it first made in late April, yesterday claimed that Polish "revisionists" have increased their efforts to use the precongress discussions to force structural changes in the party. Their ultimate goal, TASS contended, is to push the party in a "social democratic" direction. For the first time, Moscow linked the "revisionists" with "antisocialist forces" in Solidarity, claiming that they have formed a "united front" to undermine the party.

In fact, the revolt of the Polish rank and file has led to the replacement in several provinces of more than half of the first secretaries and executive committee members of local party organizations. A significant proportion of the newcomers belong to Solidarity. Members of the union also are being elected to higher level conferences at which delegates to the party congress will be chosen.

On Thursday, Pravda used interviews with Polish party members to express concern over the precongress elections. It claimed that "unhealthy" forces in the party are advancing ideas "alien to Marxism-Leninism" under the guise of "renewal" and "democratization."

Pravda also stated that, although the majority of the party remains faithful to Marxism-Leninism, many members were guilty of "political immaturity and lack of faith." The article, revealing fears that many orthodox, pro-Moscow party leaders could be ousted either before or at the congress, warned that "the leadership ranks must not be decimated."

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